

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111  
U.S. Patent Application No. 10/020,956

**IN THE ABSTRACT:**

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A tape reel includes a hub in a cylindrical shape around which a magnetic tape is adapted to be wrapped, an upper flange and a lower flange respectively provided at an upper end and a lower end [ends] of the hub. The tape reel is constructed in such a manner that a distance between the upper and the lower flanges outside the outer peripheral surface of the hub is gradually decreased, as the magnetic tape is [going to be] being wrapped around the hub.